

8th December 1947]

“(d) Yes—on pages 353–356 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 8th July 1947.

“(e) The list was signed by four out of the five members; Sri A. Viswanath, Principal, Arthur Hope College of Technology, was not present at the meetings of the Committee.”

University course in Journalism.

* 186 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any of the Universities in the Province have any course in Journalism or conduct any examination in that subject;

(b) if so, what are the particulars of the course of examination; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether the Government have under consideration the introduction of a course in Journalism in any of the Universities?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

“(a) & (b) The University of Madras has constituted a diploma course in Journalism and conducts examinations in that subject. It is difficult to give particulars of the course in answer to a question. Details regarding the course can be obtained from the Madras University.

“(c) Does not arise.”

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—“Are there any colleges teaching this course of Journalism?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

“The hon. Member may put a specific question on that point.”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1947–48.

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Supplementary Demands will now be taken up for consideration.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Mr. President, Sir, we must express again our sense of gratitude to the Hon. Minister for Finance for inaugurating the procedure of presenting supplementary estimates as and when they are ready, instead of waiting till the 27th of March of the official year. But I feel it would have been better if they had been presented in almost all cases before the schemes were actually sanctioned, so that the views expressed in the Legislature might be taken into account in giving final shape to the schemes. All the same, Sir, as I said, we are

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

[8th December 1947]

grateful to him for giving us an opportunity to express what we feel on the various proposals that are contained in these supplementary estimates.

“ Sir, I have a few doubts which I trust the Hon. Ministers concerned will clear, and I am sure they are shared by many other hon. Members of this House. Under Grant II—Provincial Excise, a large sum is asked for enforcement staff; and it is stated that the existing excise staff is to be entrusted with enforcement work. I would like to ask, if the enforcement work is to be entrusted to the existing excise staff, why should there be such a large addition to the district executive establishment costing so many lakhs of rupees? If at all the enforcement of prohibition is more difficult than the enforcement of excise laws, a little strengthening of the existing staff would have been sufficient. Why should so much amount be required for enforcement staff? I do not think it is merely a case of transfer of heads, because the prohibition staff is provided under the major head Provincial Excise.

“ Then as regards the provision for irrigation, I am really disappointed with the provision made for the schemes coming under ‘grow more food’. There are, as I have more than once mentioned in this House, many small and big schemes, particularly in my district, which I wish had found a place in these estimates. There is only one scheme, i.e., relating to the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal system which has long been pending, which has been included under this head. But I feel there are many more schemes worthy of consideration even as grow more food schemes which could have been included under this head. May I, in passing, throw out a suggestion for the consideration of the Hon. Minister for Public Works, that he could as well make a lump provision out of which the Government could make grants for various approved schemes as and when they become ready. There are two stages in all schemes, the preliminary investigation stage and the detailed investigation stage and the preparation of estimates. As soon as a scheme under preliminary investigation is found to be feasible, I wish that scheme is sanctioned as soon as the detailed estimates are prepared, out of the lump-sum provision made in the budget. That would avoid many schemes being held up for want of sanction of the Legislature, or being sanctioned without the sanction of the Legislature.

“ I have a word about the Provincial Firka Development Board. The Provincial Firka Development Board has been constituted to assist the Government with their advice and guidance in the conduct of rural reconstruction schemes undertaken in the various firkas. I wish the Board had been smaller than what it is. From what has been announced in the Press, it appears to me to be an unwieldy body as compared to many other boards constituted by the Government and of which I happen to be a member. Unless a Board is a small one consisting of experts who are competent to advise the Government on the various items of work

8th December 1947] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

proposed to be undertaken in the various firkas, the Government are not likely to get that assistance which they need and the transaction of business will not be quick.

“ I feel, Sir, we ought to be grateful to the Government for this organization of armed reserve Police. This organization is long overdue and the need for it we ought to have felt at least since the 15th August 1947, as from that date we have been thrown on our own resources to defend ourselves and maintain law and order. From that date onwards, we can no longer make some one responsible for the maintenance of law and order. All the same, a step in the right direction has been taken and it is better late than never. But I have a word about the semi-permanent buildings to be put up at a cost of Rs. 19 lakhs. We have all of us seen the semi-permanent buildings put up by the military throughout this Province, and we know how flimsy they were; and even when they were auctioned after their purpose was served, they fetched little or nothing in return. As we have decided to spend Rs. 19,47,000, why not we spend a little more and make them pukka buildings, so that if in good time the need for the abolition of all reserve police arises—I hope it will arise—and when there is peace and order in the country, these very buildings can be utilized for some other better purpose and the money spent now in putting them up will not be entirely lost. I have in mind, Sir, specially as mention has been made, the Civil Pioneer Force Barracks at Bellary which are to be placed at the disposal of the Inspector-General of Police; and I am sure the Inspector-General of Police will come up with a big estimate to make them habitable; for they were flimsy structures that were meant to serve a particular purpose. The Civil Pioneer Force was not meant to be maintained after the period of the war and so, though a considerable amount has been spent in putting up these barracks, I do not think they will serve the purpose for which we want them now, i.e., for locating one of the armed police units.

“ Then, Sir, I come to my favourite theme of education. I am very glad the Hon. Minister for Education has kindly accepted the recommendations of the University to provide the required staff in various colleges necessitated by the opening of new courses and by the increase in numbers. But may I take this occasion to plead once again with him that it is high time he takes up the question of improving the status and emoluments of the Assistant Lecturers? If he wants the best men to be attracted to these posts, he should make it worthwhile for them to take to the teaching profession in colleges and remove the longstanding grievances of the existing staff.

“ No mention has been made in this note as to how many posts of assistant lecturers in languages have been converted into lecturers' posts. However, I am glad, Sir, that the position of languages is being recognized. But, may I know why Sanskrit has not received any attention of the Hon. Minister? I am sure,

11-30
a.m.

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [8th December 1947]

hon. Members of this House have read the speech of His Excellency Dr. Kailasanath Katju, delivered the other day at Cuttack before the Inter-University Board wherein he placed Sanskrit on a high pedestal worthy to be encouraged by all as he felt that Sanskrit, is in a way, the mother of many languages. May I tell the Hon. Minister for Education, though he is a protagonist of the Dravidian culture, that many Dravidian languages owe a great deal to Sanskrit? May I therefore suggest to him not to neglect the source of inspiration, the source which has enriched the other Dravidian languages and that in encouraging it, he will be encouraging Dravidian languages as well? Perhaps I may say in passing, Sir, that I do not know anything of Sanskrit, but I know that my mother tongue has been enriched greatly by the Sanskrit language.

“ May I also, in this connexion, point out that there is a great necessity for opening a Sanskrit group in the B.A. course in the Queen Mary's College as there are a large number of lady students whose mother tongue is not one of the regional languages, but who would like to pursue the study of Sanskrit? You may obtain statistics if necessary. If sufficient number is forthcoming, it should be possible to open a Sanskrit group in the Queen Mary's College.

“ Then, Sir, I come to the question of basic education. We have been hearing a great deal about basic education, but we have not been told how the basic education sponsored by the Hon. Minister for Education differs either from the Wardha scheme of basic education or the elementary education which is mentioned in the report of the Central Board of Education. Sir, yesterday I read in the papers that the Hon. Minister for Education of the Union Government expressed in the Central Assembly that he has accepted the basic education scheme propounded by the Central Board of Education and that he was in communication with all the Provincial Governments to reorganize elementary education on those lines. May I also point out, Sir, in this connexion that my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education is not the first person who has bestowed some attention to this system of basic education, or what is known as Wardha scheme? It may be remembered that when the Congress took up office in 1937, the question of introducing basic education did engage the attention of the Government at that time. I also remember, Sir, that the Hon. (now His Excellency) Sri C. Rajagopalachari had prolonged talks with the head of the department of Education to find out how the then existing system of elementary education could be adapted to the needs of basic education. If my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education will only look into the archives of the Secretariat, I am sure he will find a statement prepared by the then Director of Public Instruction in which all the three schemes, viz., the general basic education scheme, the Wardha basic education scheme and the elementary education scheme as

8th December 1947] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

was propounded to be introduced into this Province, were compared and that as a result of that comparison, the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari came to the conclusion that there was no need for them to alter the present system of elementary education as it had absorbed all the best elements of the Wardha scheme of basic education. Sir, this question also came up before the Post-war Reconstruction Committee and that Committee examined at great length the system of education that was prevailing in this Province at the time and also the system propounded by the Central Board of Education and passed the following resolution, namely :—

‘ With reference to a suggestion made during the discussions at the meeting of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee, the Committee considered the question whether the present type of education, particularly elementary education is suitable or whether it requires to be modified in the light of Wardha system. The Committee resolves that there is no need to modify the present system of elementary education as it already embodies the good points of the Wardha system.’

“ Sir, I should like the Hon. Minister for Education to tell us how his scheme of basic education differs from all these systems, why he should feel the need to start two separate basic training schools at Perianaickenpalayam and Vinayasramam, whether our training schools cannot train our teachers in the matter of basic education, and whether the Government has approved the Hon. Minister's system of basic education, and lastly I should also like the Hon. Minister for Education to enlighten us how his system differs from any of the previous systems or the present system that is in vogue in this Province. Certainly we feel that all the elements of the Wardha system of education can be incorporated or have been already incorporated in our present system. But whether there is any need to start these separate training schools, or whether there is need to send all our teachers all the way to Wardha for training in basic education, or whether our schools are to be converted into basic schools, or whether in fact, they are not already basic schools—all these are points which I would request the Hon. Minister for Education to explain. Let him not take us as ignoramus on this subject; let him tell us how his system is superior to the system adumbrated by the Central Board of Education and the system that is prevailing here.

“ Then, Sir, I come to the provision under ‘ Medical.’ Let me express my sincere gratitude to the Hon. Minister for Public Health for realizing how the accommodation in the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary. was not being properly utilized for converting it into a civil hospital, so that the benefit of medical relief in that hospital can be made available to a large number of people who cannot secure admission in the other Tuberculosis Sanatoria or who are not in a position to take advantage of the costly treatment in other private sanatoria.

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [8th December 1947]

“ Sir, another feature of the demand under this head, to which I am sure, no member of this House and the public outside, can take exception is that relating to the creation of a fund for the development of rural water-supply. I know, Sir, what amount of interest the Hon. Premier takes in this matter and I wish, Sir, that a similar fund is created for rural roads, so that the needs of the rural population may not be neglected. The needs of rural areas are always in the minds of the people and the Government and the authorities should not give up such beneficial schemes on the plea of want of funds. As hon. Members know, I did protest against the abandonment of the Fund which the Hon. Dr. Rajan created in 1937-38. I did protest in this House, when that Fund was closed and I pleaded at that time that the Fund should be re-started, but my voice was a voice in the wilderness. I am glad, Sir, that the good scheme that was started in 1937-38 is now being revived and I am sure, this is under better auspices, because more funds have been provided this time. I hope, Sir, that in the course of a few years, we will not be able to see a village without adequate water-supply and that people will not be required to walk miles to fetch a pot of drinking water.

“ Then, Sir, I come to the postwar reconstruction schemes under ‘ Agriculture ’. It may be remembered, Sir, that when the supplementary budget was presented on the 25th March 1947, I took very serious objection to the expenditure on the purchase of pumps, tractors, jeeps, etc., from Thompson Disposals Committee at a cost of Rs. 22,67,000. I also asked where those pumps, tractors and jeeps were kept and how they were used. I have not been told, nor the public have been told, where these pumping sets, where these tractors and where these jeeps are kept. Nor have I been told whether the 620 petrol-driven pump sets from the United States of America ordered at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs have been received and where they are being used.

“ Then again, Sir, we were told in that Budget that 57 diesel engine pumping sets from Messrs. Parry & Co., and from the Headquarters, Southern Command, and a number of other purchases have already been made at a huge cost. What has happened to all these purchases? Where are these materials? Are they on the scrap heap, or are they being utilized, and if so, how? We want information on all these things, Sir. Unless that is known, how can you expect the Madras Legislature to agree to the purchase of further 40 sets of small tractors and also some pumping sets? We have no objection to the Government purchasing these additional sets, if they are really required in addition to those already purchased at a heavy cost, but we should like to know, what has happened to the purchases already made; where they are being used and how they are being used, whether any results have been obtained, and whether these results have been commensurate with the huge expenditure involved in the purchase of these sets. The Legislature has a right to know all these things, Sir, and what the need is for purchasing more now.

8th December 1947] [Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao]

I am sure, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Finance Minister would have looked into it, and if he is able to answer my questions, I shall be satisfied. However, I should like to know why this large amount of more than Rs. 50 lakhs has been considered necessary now.

“ Then, Sir, I come to Co-operation. I am one of those, along with many other co-operators, who have been pleading that the auditing of societies has been in arrears and that the audit staff should be strengthened. We are very glad, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister in charge of Co-operation has come forward with a proposal for increasing the audit staff, but I see, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister in charge of Co-operation and the Hon. the Minister for Finance have not accepted what the Registrar of Co-operative Societies had suggested, that is, at the rate of one Inspector for 45 societies. The scale adopted by Government will not be workable in practice with the result the Registrar of Co-operative Societies will be asked to explain why the audit is in arrears and he would point out that a proposal had already been made that unless his staff was increased, it would not be possible for him to get the audit done in time. 11-45 a.m.

“ Sir, a most disheartening feature of this paragraph is that Government have directed that with effect from the 1st January 1948, the expenditure on the staff required for the audit of co-operative societies should not be a charge on the provincial revenues and that the concessions granted with regard to the audit fees should be withdrawn from the same date. This is the worst feature of this part of the Budget. I am sure many hon. Members know as well as the Hon. the Minister and the Government that audit is a statutory function of the Government since the inception of the co-operative movement. So far as rural societies are concerned, they have never been required to pay audit fees. Out of the 12,000 societies in this Province, nearly 4,000 are working at a loss. Is it the intention of the Government to collect audit fees even from these 4,000 societies so that their liabilities may increase and they may be liquidated quickly? Do not we wish to give a chance to improve them and to run them at a profit? The result of this will be—I am sure there will be agitation on this topic outside this House also—the result of this will be to reduce the number of societies and in that way reduce their usefulness. Is it fair to Government to come to a decision in a matter of this kind without giving an opportunity to co-operators who have given their most disinterested and honest service to express themselves and without knowing how they react to a proposal of this kind? I feel, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister in charge of Co-operation should not accept this position. I am sure he has not accepted but he has been forced to do so by the Finance Department because each Minister in charge of a department is too zealous of keeping up the prestige of his department. Therefore, Sir, I would like the Government to re-examine this question. In the case of a society which earns profit, Government may be perfectly

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [8th December 1947]

entitled to levy audit fees and collect them but in the case of societies which have not yet established themselves or which are running at a loss but whose existence is very desirable, in order to improve them and to make them profitable societies, I wish the Government should be indulgent and should allow the audit of these societies to be conducted without charging fees. I shall leave it at that and I am sure we will have opportunities of presenting our case ere long before the authorities.

" Sir, I am grateful to the Hon. the Finance Minister and my Hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya, who is not here at present, for the increase in the boarding grant given for the children of the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department, but I think, Sir, this grant could have been made with grace a little early. We are now in the month of December. Many hostels were hoping to get these boarding grants but when rumours reached them that Government had not sanctioned the grants, I know some of them had to send away their children. If this grant had been given in the month of July, it would have come with great grace. Even now, I am sure many institutions are grateful to the Government because they are enabled to maintain a large number of boarders in their hostels and thus assist in the economic and social uplift of our Harijan brethren. May I suggest, Sir—I have been pleading more than once on this and perhaps the matter is already engaging the attention of the Harijan Welfare Committee—that there should be a progressive increase in the number of boarding grants sanctioned to these children of the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department?

" I have nothing more to say except to thank again my Hon. Friend the Minister for Finance. As I have already stated, he has shown great courtesy towards the Legislature. I would plead with him once again that as he has decided to come before the Legislature for the approval of the many schemes sanctioned in his department, he could do so before his department accepts those schemes so that he may have the benefit of the views of the members of the Legislature in giving a final shape to those schemes which would be ultimately sanctioned. With these few words, Sir, and since there is no voting on this, I commend the Supplementary Demands."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, at the very outset, let me express my pleasure and I think it is the pleasure of every member of this House to see a large majority of the Ministers to listen to our criticisms of the proposals. Nine of them are here and I am sure a convention will be established that when we discuss the Budget proposals, which not only concern one Minister but all the Ministers, they may be here to listen to our criticisms and suggestions.

" Sir, while going through the Demands for Grants for Further Expenditure, I have to commend very highly the Ministers, particularly on three measures adopted by them,

8th December 1947] [Dr. V. K. John]

although there are also other minor matters which I do not propose to refer to. I have to commend three measures, condemn one and refer generally to one or two matters. Sir, it is the responsibility—the primary and overriding responsibility—of the Government to preserve peace and order. We are very pleased indeed and the public, I am sure, will also be very pleased to see that the Government are taking measures to keep order, if an emergency arises. I am referring, Sir, to the creation of four mobile units of special armed Police, to put down any disorder that may arise in this Province. But, I want to make one or two suggestions with regard to this. The first is that four units are not sufficient; they must have more units. (Interruption.) I am told there is no money. I say that this is a primary responsibility of the Government and it should not be said when an emergency has arisen that the Government could not cope with it. So, I suggest to the Government that they must have more units. The next suggestion that I want to make to the Government is that they must give training in arms to every youth in this Province by creating a Home Guard—call it by any name—not a paid home guard but an unpaid one. Almost every young man, everybody in this Province must be trained in arms. Then, my third suggestion is that Government must supply weapons to all the loyal citizens—there may be a doubt as to how one can understand who are loyal and who are not, but everybody knows who are loyal to the Indian Union—and to such of those loyal citizens, the Government should supply arms so that in case there is emergency the citizens who are trained in arms may be drafted on to the army if required.

“ Then Sir, another suggestion which I want to make is that in training special armed Police, they may not start their career in corruption. I am very pleased, Sir, and I know the public are gratified that we have an Inspector-General of Police, who is a very experienced and efficient civilian. I was at Vellore the other day and I was told that under a mamool prevalent for many years, the trainees in the Police Training School at Vellore used to give about Rs. 6 a month to the Inspectors out of their pay and allowances as ‘mamool.’ This mamool was stopped very recently by Mr. Sathyavageswara Ayyar, the Vice-Principal, when he had a chance to act as Principal. Mr. Sathyavageswara Ayyar has the reputation of being a very efficient and incorruptible officer. Almost everybody at Vellore knows of the existence of this mamool and that it was only recently stopped. When young men are trained for a mobile unit or for other Police duties, they should not start in corruption. In fact, I mentioned to the Hon. the Premier about this mamool in the Vellore Training School and he promised to go into the matter.

“ Sir, the second measure on which I want to congratulate the Government is on the practical step taken for the uplift of the Harijans. Last year we sanctioned a crore of rupees but very little was spent. This year, I am glad to see that Government

[Dr. V. K. John] [8th December 1947]

have sanctioned 1,746 boarding grants costing Rs. 2,62,105 per annum. It is a step in the right direction. After all, the first obligation of society is to see that those who have been down-trodden are no more down-trodden but lifted. Social reform is one of the main objects of Government and this is a step in the right direction. In this connexion, I would make a suggestion that these Harijan hostels should not be for Harijans alone and there should not be segregation. It is not right policy to segregate them and they ought not to be segregated.

"Another matter on which I want to congratulate the Government is on the attempt they have made to give protected water-supply in rural areas. One suggestion that I would make in this connexion is to consider the feasibility of introducing pipe water in rural areas. Sir, in England there are many towns which are provided with protected water-supply from three hundred miles away and it might be possible for Engineers in this country also to take water from hundreds of miles away by means of pipe system to every village. I do not think by merely putting chlorine into the wells, the water will be made pure for drinking purposes. So, I suggest to the Government the feasibility of having pipe water-supply in every village, if they possibly can."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The cost will be very high."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"I understand from the Hon. the Minister for Finance that the cost will be very much. But let him not say it is impossible. The Hon. the Minister for Finance must, like Napoleon Bonaparte say he word 'impossible,' is not in his dictionary.

12 noon "Now, Sir, having commended and congratulated the Government on three measures, I want to condemn one and condemn the Government very strongly on this unnecessary and growing expenditure on Prohibition. Sir, according to the demand, the total expenditure on account of staff, etc., will be Rs. 16,99,200 per annum recurring and Rs. 1,17,700 non-recurring and the expenditure likely to be incurred in 1947-48 is about Rs. 7,03,600 recurring and Rs. 1,72,700 non-recurring. Sir, this is for the enforcement of Prohibition in the West Coast districts and Nellore and Guntur. When we turn to page 5 we find that in three of the districts, namely, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura. the Police department has been entrusted with the enforcement of Prohibition and the total expenditure on account of staff, etc., will be Rs. 9,52,700 per annum recurring and Rs. 7,900 non-recurring. Then there is also further expenditure. On the question of the Government's policy of Prohibition on which I have spoken I agreed they should not tax the poor and collect half the revenue of the Province from them, but I could not agree with them that they should spend so much on Prohibition in attempting to do an impossible task. And what is the result? People still drink. Now, Sir, I want to make a suggestion in this connexion

8th December 1947] [Dr. V. K. John]

because this expenditure is colossal. I am not suggesting that we should have collected from the poor the amount that we were collecting as excise revenue; that is quite a different thing altogether. I am saying, Sir, that the Government is trying to do the impossible. I suggest to them to cut off all the offending trees which give this 'poisonous stuff.' I am not saying this in lightheartedness but I am making a serious suggestion and I will explain it. Sir, there was a tree, the tree of knowledge in the garden of Eden and but for its existence we would still have been in the garden of Eden. I suggest we cut off the old trees from which we tap. Young trees need not be cut off. Then the people will get accustomed to another habit and we need not spend so much as lakhs and lakhs of rupees on the department. The department is now spending colossal sums but is also demoralizing the people because people are trying to drink by illicit methods; and then there is corruption among Government officials and corruption among people who drink. So, let us have not these offending trees for two or three years."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I would like to know what Malabar will say to this suggestion."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" If we make out an estimate of the loss on account of the cutting off of these trees, we shall find that the loss is not so much compared to the cost involved on Prohibition and we have many more districts to be declared dry. I want to prevent demoralization of the people and the expenditure on Prohibition."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" What will Malabar say to the suggestion of cutting coconut trees."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" You may, if you like, leave the coconut trees in Malabar for the time being, and there are many other districts, where there are not many coconut trees but tapping is of palmyra trees. Therefore, I say, cut off these trees and then plant young ones—I do not say cut off young ones—there will be no temptation to drunkards to go in for drink and you will keep people away from illicit distillation and also prevent the workmen from taking to drink during these two or three years. I would like to point out how the people will react to your Prohibition policy. The other day I was going in a car, that was on the 3rd of October last—from Coimbatore to Kodaikanal and my car got punctured near Kodaikanal Road station and two dozen workmen, men and women, gathered round the car and it was then three days after the introduction of Prohibition in the district. I joked with them and asked whether they were not all happy, particularly women, that Prohibition was introduced and one man stepped out and said that they had no education they had no Vidyabyasam, and also said that their women were the rulers in the house and when they earned one rupee per day, they had to give 12 annas to the woman for maintaining her and the children and the remaining four annas they spent on drink—The men go home and sleep, get up refreshed

[Dr. V. K. John] [8th December 1947]

and work hard next day. That is the way in which their women-folk are treated by them. As I said, I do not now want to go into the question of Prohibition expenditure, but still the figures given by the Hon. Minister Mr. Daniel Thomas showing that the offences are increasing and people drink; and distilled stuff is something which is very bad for their health. Now, Sir, in this House we are trying to do the impossible. Therefore what I suggest is, cut off these offending trees, the 'tree of knowledge,' used by people for drink, so that they may get accustomed to another life for one or two years and the young ones which are planted may come up in a few years and yield fruits.

"Sir, I do not want to take up more of the time of the House except to make one more remark. Sir, when a Budget is presented we must always think that the Ministers will give us a balance-sheet. We are not concerned with the dividends in the shape of money but we are concerned with the service, and the security and happiness of the people of this Province. The balance-sheet presented by the Government should be of such a nature. From this point of view, I ask how much money has been spent and how much and what have you done in the matter of stepping up production of essential necessities like foodstuffs, cloth and housing? Practically nothing at all. And very little has been done in the direction of irrigation also and though there is provision in the Budget for irrigation there is nothing for Malabar. I find for the last 50 years Malabar had only Rs. 5,000 odd spent on irrigation. Even in this Supplementary Budget there is no provision for irrigation in Malabar, but I am very pleased that you are providing for hospitals there because Malabar is a deficit district and people are starving for want of irrigation facilities. I am glad that Government have recognized this fact by adding hospitals in Malabar. Here I would suggest the construction of more hospitals because there is no food in Malabar and people are starving and therefore ill. Sir in all these matters and especially in the matter of the production of essential articles there is not much proof that the Government have done anything substantial. I suggest, Sir, that when they present a Budget, let us have some idea of what they have done in keeping the security of this Province, because we must have some evidence that they are doing something in the direction of stepping-up production of the necessities of life. We hear of strikes everywhere and there is the threatened strike of even the Government servants as everybody knows. It is all due to the fact that there is not sufficient necessities of life for them to purchase on the pay they receive. Now Government cannot give them more pay because there is no money and the Government, however willing and however anxious they are to have a contented service, they are unable to find money and they do not want to go bankrupt. Of course we can sympathize with the Government, but one way of solving the problem is the stepping-up of production in order to enable everybody, including Government servants, to have the necessities of life at a reasonable cost."

8th December 1947]

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I do not know if a general discussion is allowed on the Supplementary Demands.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I am referring to what is absent. The Government said the other day that they would not even construct houses for Government servants because they had not got materials, apart from finance. I suggest to them, every time a Supplementary Budget or the Budget for the year is brought before the House, let us have not only the rupees, annas and pies but also an account of achievement of the Government. Because the Budget after all reflects the policy of the Government, let us know what they propose to do in stepping-up production in the matter of food, housing and cloth. When we know that, we may be able to see that this Government is doing something for the security and the prosperity of a large majority of the inhabitants of this Province.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I wish to remind the House that the discussion has to close to-day. If I know the number of speakers who propose to take part in the discussion I will consider the question whether any time-limit has to be fixed for speeches.”

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—“ I would like to congratulate the Government for having brought forward these demands in the Supplementary Budget. Much criticism has been levelled against the administration of the Excise Department in the matter of enforcement of Prohibition. I may submit, Sir, that there is one vital and important difference in the working of the Prohibition Act and all other penal Acts. So far as the penal Acts are concerned like the Indian Penal Code where the offences are being investigated and there are some people who are interested in bringing the offenders to book evidence is readily available in the matter of those offences, in the matter of this Prohibition Act we find, Sir, there has not been that much of support from the quarters as we expected in bringing the offenders to book and therefore one has naturally to look to the public officials themselves for support. So far as evidence is concerned it is not readily forthcoming. I may submit, Sir, it is not only in connexion with the Prohibition offences but in connexion with all offences that take place in villages, evidence is not readily forthcoming. Respect for law has declined and respect for authority also has declined and till you restore that respect for law, I may submit, Sir, that you may not be able to properly assess whether the working of the Prohibition Act has been successful and whether the criticism that has been levelled against the Prohibition Act is really justified. More co-operation from the public is necessary and more honest working on the part of the public officials also is really necessary in making this Prohibition a success. Some Government servants are addicted to drink and after the introduction of Prohibition it is rather difficult for them to give up their drink. I really sympathise with their condition but still when once the Act has been introduced it is the bounden duty of all to see that the Act is enforced and when a Government official breaks the provisions the

12-15
P.M.

[Sri N. Ranga Reddi] [8th December 1947]

attendant harmful consequences are greater to society than when an ordinary citizen breaks the law. Therefore, I submit, Sir, that there are peculiar difficulties in coming to a conclusion whether the Prohibition Act is successful or not. My hon. Friend and colleague Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, when talking about this Excise demand said he did not know whether any additional expenditure was necessary for working out this Prohibition Act and whether a slight increase in expenditure was not sufficient. It is very difficult to work and therefore more expense is necessary and more officials are necessary to work this Act. These offences are not always committed inside the four walls of a house where you can easily book the offenders but they are committed in the open where any one person cannot be held as responsible and law will also to a certain extent be ineffective because to get at these people will be difficult. Illicit arrack is made in the river beds and hillocks and it is very difficult for these officials to arrest and get them convicted. It is really more difficult. One suggestion that has been advanced by my Friend Dr. V. K. John is to cut all the trees. That will not solve the problem. I might say that this won't help and people have got to be educated that drink habit is a bad thing. If he is going to suggest that toddy drink is bad and that all the coconut and palmyra trees should be felled down still it will not solve the problem for there is the manufacture of the illicit arrack. Persons able to get illicit arrack will never go in for this toddy drink and if he could get the latter with the same ease, he will certainly care to drink only the arrack and not that toddy. I submit therefore that the suggestion that these coconut trees may be felled down will not solve the problem. What will really solve the problem is to make this Act work successfully by ourselves doing propaganda and also making the officials do propaganda.

"The next point for consideration of the House is about the demand for Police. I also join with Dr. John in congratulating the Government for having instituted this Special Police. This is really necessary to preserve the internal security in the country and I must say that this by itself is not sufficient. As has been suggested, the Government should be very liberal in the grant of licences for firearms to the people for self defence. I find, Sir, that so far as the administration of the Arms Act is concerned there has not been any change and the same method of granting the licences for weapons as it was before the 15th August is being followed and the power is entrusted to the same authority. The methods and principles which have been followed by the District Magistrate all these days are still being continued. Sir, licences for arms are being granted only to the favourites of the Police who help them in various ways and not to people who really desire them for their protection and their property. One curious thing is that the licences once granted are being cancelled not because there was any likelihood of misuse of the weapon but because he lost favour with the Police or the Magistracy and therefore the licence for that weapon is cancelled. I may submit, Sir, that the

8th December 1947] [Sri N. Ranga Reddi]

very same principles are being followed. That is not a proper thing to do. When once a person has been given a licence it should be cancelled only on his conviction before a Magistrate that he has misused the firearm or is likely to misuse it. It is only on these conditions that the licences should be cancelled. I submit that the grant of licences for firearms should also be more liberal in the Indian Union so that we can protect our property and lives with greater ease.

"Then, I may submit, Sir, that so far as the demand for education is concerned, of course, the Hon. Minister for Education has done his level best to improve the status of the lecturers as mentioned by my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao. I would have expected that something would have been done with regard to the Cuddapah College but probably these demands relate only to expenditure that were incurred before March. As these have been already spent, I cannot say anything. All the same I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Education who had come to Cuddapah some time back in connexion with the starting of a College in Cuddapah district. He toured the whole district and gave us hopes that a College will be started by June 1948 and I may also hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister will take the same interest in the other matter of the transfer of the Engineering College from Guindy to Anantapur. The College is still called the Anantapur Engineering College but it is working at Guindy. When I say this I do not mean to say that it should be transferred without the equipment and without proper building. I submit, Sir, that it should first be provided with sufficient equipment and he should find a suitable building and then start the College at Anantapur.

"With regard to public health also, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for Public Health, but I would point out one difficulty. So far as this problem of public health is concerned, would it ever be solved by merely giving out doles now and then towards revenues to local bodies like a District Board or Village Panchayat or a Municipality? I submit, Sir, that this question has not been treated in the manner it ought to have been treated. I do not find any indication in the explanatory note for expenditure of this demand that the policy of the Government has changed very much. I know my Friend Sri Suryanarayana Rao was congratulating the Government for the fact that this Government has reverted to the policy enunciated in 1937 or 1938. Of course the House may be aware that so far as the provision for rural water-supply was concerned, as early as 1937 or 1938 the Congress Government enunciated the principle that the need is the criterion and not the question of contribution by any Village Panchayat or a Municipality or a District Board. What I wish to submit, Sir, is that irrespective of the fact whether a particular Municipality is able to bear the expenditure or not, the Provincial Government should bear the entire expenditure and solve this question of rural water-supply. This problem has been neglected

[Sri N. Ranga Reddi] [8th December 1947]

and it should not be thrown entirely on the resources of the local bodies. If that is done this problem will never be solved. I beg to submit that this should be the responsibility of the Provincial Government. Very recently the Hon. Minister for Public Health constituted a Committee called the Rural Water-Supply and Urban Drainage Scheme Committee. I had the privilege to sit on the Committee as one of the representatives. The Committee sat for various days and made a number of recommendations and also made a uniform recommendation that this question of public health should be a provincial responsibility and funds necessary ought to be borrowed by the Province and it should never be left to the District Boards or Municipalities. What happens if the latter is done is that the richer municipalities will have the benefit of carrying out all the schemes earlier whereas poor municipalities and panchayats will not be able to get through them. How can one draw a *cordon sanitaire* as it were so far as public health was concerned? How can one prevent these epidemics, and diseases spreading from one part of the country to another? This question of public health should be solved as a responsibility of the Provinces and it should be managed entirely by the province instead of being left to the local bodies. I hope that the Government will very soon accept this principle and distribute grants equally to the various bodies or villages which are in need of these amounts.

12-30
p.m.

"I must congratulate the Hon. Minister for Agriculture on the beginning that has been made, a very good beginning, in the matter of the purchase of tractors. On account of the war, both during the war and afterwards, the number of animals has gone down and consequently the cost of the animals has gone up very high and the agriculturists find it extremely difficult to purchase or to replace animals and therefore, it is a good thing that these tractors have been purchased by Government and they are to be lent to agriculturists. Purchase of tractors is an indication that you are mechanizing agriculture but for this purpose they should have big plots of land so as to put these tractors to use. I know in very many places you do not find big plots for the use of tractors. What happens in such cases is that only the rich landlords will get the benefit. I submit for the consideration of Government that they must encourage the starting of co-operative farming societies in villages and the villages which start these co-operative farming will have priority in getting the loan of these tractors. If a beginning is to be made, it is this way and I hope this suggestion will be considered by Government."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN:—"Mr. President, the Hon. Minister is to be congratulated on making a beginning and let us hope that these tractors do form a beginning and an aid in regard to modern and scientific farming. We have had thousands of years with the primitive plough drawn by oxen and just as we turned a new leaf in our political life, let me hope that we turn a new leaf in our science of agriculture. I was disappointed somewhat to see that Government have provided for forty sets of tractors and that too small tractors. These appear to fall far short of what the public

8th December 1947] [Sri S. B. Adityan]

expected both in respect of quantity and quality. There is need in the province for a greater number of tractors and that of the bigger variety. I am also somewhat disappointed to see that these tractors are not intended for any state farming; they are only for the purpose of being hired to cultivators. That, I submit, is not enough even as a beginning. We have in the Congress election manifesto both big scale farming and state farming and if the Hon. Minister would think of starting new state farms in the province, he has got sufficient authority in the Congress election manifesto as well as in the public opinion. The main difficulty as my hon. Friend Mr. Ranga Reddi pointed out in introducing tractors, is the small size of the holdings and these require urgent and immediate legislation. I believe the Hon. Minister would consider the introduction of legislation to prevent further subdivision of the already small and numerous holdings in the province. Government should also take powers into their hands for compulsorily grouping of small holdings so that there would be a possibility for big scale agricultural enterprises.

“ The other matter to which I wish to draw the attention of Government is the formation of Special Armed Police Units and I join with the previous speaker in welcoming the formation of those units and certainly, there will be public support even for a greater number of units being started but the objection mentioned by some one was the question of finance. Even if there is finance sufficient for only four units at the present moment, we can make the best of it by forming really good and effective units. I desire to point out to Government that the success of this measure will depend to a very great extent on the care with which recruitment is made. If we have strong, united and really patriotic set of men in these units, I believe they would go a very great way in safeguarding the peace of the province. On the other hand, if even a few men whose loyalty is doubtful are admitted into these units, then instead of these units being a source of strength, they will then really be a source of weakness. There are many men who have been tried in the actual battle field and who have been found fit for national service; I refer to the I.N.A. men who have not been employed either in industry or in Government. I submit that these men should be given the first preference; they have been tested; they have been found fit and they have gone through fire as it were and have come out successful in the test; they have done things which no mercenary army can do in the field and certainly we do not require a set of mercenary men to safeguard the peace of the province. There are also the R.I.N. men who were formerly in the Royal Indian Navy who took part in the Mutiny at Bombay and who had been dismissed from service on that account. I know at least the case of one who tried to register himself in the Employment Exchange but whose registration was refused. These men stand on the same footing as the I.N.A. men; they have done their bit for the country and they have been found at the time of trial to be fit men and they should be given the opportunity to serve the country again by being enlisted in the Armed Police Units. Then again, we have got the Congressmen, the men who

[Sri S. B. Adityan] [8th December 1947]

took part in the Congress struggle for many years and who took part in the 1942 movement and who are still unemployed. The units will suit their spirit. Probably, they did not have the same experience in handling weapons as the R.I.N. men or the I.N.A. men but they have the needed spirit and the needed patriotism provided they are given military practice and these will form an asset to the province. I must also mention the case of the ex-army men, the men who served till lately in the British Indian Army. From the announcement I heard on the radio, I thought as though all these 1,000 posts in the units are open only to the ex-army men; if that is really a fact, it is very much to be deplored. As I said, there are I.N.A. men, the R.I.N. men and there are the Congress political heroes—all these must have preference in the Armed Units of this kind. All I have stated applies equally to them and their experience in the field of battle may also be utilized for the safety of the country. The reason why I am asking the Government for an assurance that these men will be given preference is that the whole success of the scheme is going to depend on the care with which these men are selected. I hope that the Government will look into the antecedents of every applicant. We have got to see about us and look around as to who are the States who have not yet joined the Indian Union; I do not expect and I certainly do not wish there will be any hostility between the Indian Union and any other part of the world or any other country; but we have got to take the real and the practical state of affairs into consideration. These men, in the event of an emergency, in the event of a clash with a State which is not in the Indian Union, should stand firmly and loyally in the Army and for the defence of the Indian Union and so the antecedents and records of every one of these applicants should be seen with that view and if there is the slightest doubt or if there is the slightest reason for doubt or suspicion that some of them may not be loyal in the event of a clash, then such men must not be taken; they must be above suspicion and I hope that the Government will, in recruiting men, pay attention to these factors so that these Armed Units will be a source of strength instead of a source of weakness."

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Mr. President, I rise in this debate to advert to promotion as Deputy Superintendents of Police. I came to know that there are about 20 to 25 people who are to be promoted as Deputy Superintendents of Police prior to the appointment of the present I.C.S. Inspector-General of Police."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not able to hear him; will the hon. Gentleman speak through the mike?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Now that the Leader of the Assembly is here, I would like to know from him whether the President can sleep in his seat."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The only thing is that he should not snore."

8th December 1947]

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am afraid that is a matter entirely in your discretion." (Laughter.)

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" I understand that people who had been recommended by the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police were not selected and people who have not yet been confirmed as Circle Inspectors were promoted to that cadre."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" On a point of order; the demand under discussion relates to the formation of special Armed Police Units for which the sanction of this House is being asked; I do not think there can be any general traversing of the whole Police Budget on an occasion like this. I suggest that the hon. Gentlemen confine themselves entirely to the demand that is being made."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" In fact, I made such a suggestion before he came; I think the hon. Member ought to confine himself to the demand before the House and not go into a general discussion as we do in the general discussion of the Budget."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Sir, I may submit I am coming to the main point. (Laughter.) I have not got the habit of trespassing the limits and I do not think there will be room to blame me for that."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Trespassing, you seem to have left to others." (Laughter.)

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Sir, when we are out to form a special police force we have to take into consideration the fact that what hitherto took place in the Police department regarding promotions and other things should not take place hereafter also. So I want to bring to the notice of the House and also of the Hon. Home Minister that what has taken place in the department in the past should not be repeated in the formation of the special police force. Hitherto the men who were capable of using the lathi against Congressmen and opening fire on public meetings were given promotion by the ex-Deputy Inspector-General. Though we have attained Swaraj, the old redtapism has not undergone any change for the good. So all I want to say is that the police force to be formed now should be only from men imbued with a sense of patriotism who are really out to serve a national government with a national spirit."

" Coming now to the Demand XXVII—Electricity, I would like to invite the attention of the Hon. Minister for Public Works that prior to the war, from Ellore to Tadepalligudem, from Tadepalligudem to Pippara and from Pippara to Mareteru, rural electrification scheme was started; poles were erected all along those places, and fortunately enough, during the war the poles were not removed. (Laughter.) After the war, or rather after the cessation of the hostilities, fresh constructions were made in other parts of the Presidency. I would like to know under this Demand whether the rural electrification scheme is to be continued."

12-45
p.m.

[8th December 1947]

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ This year it will be taken up.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ I am glad the Finance Member gives the assurance that the scheme will be continued this year, and the poles are not going to be taken away.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the Hon. Minister means next year.”

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ I will be satisfied if it is taken up even next year.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ No, during the current year.”

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ I thank you very much, Sir. Because I am said to be sleeping over this important matter in my district.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ There seems to be no doubt about that.” (Laughter.)

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ I take it as a compliment, Sir.

“ Another matter I wish to refer is about the transfer of officers. I daresay there are several unnecessary transfers made in various departments. For instance, as regards the District Medical Officer, West Godavari, is one such. The present officer was transferred though he came there only two months back. The officer was to retire in six months, and he seems to have expressed his desire not to be transferred as he wished to settle down in the West Godavari district after retirement. But he was transferred. I drew the attention of the Health Minister by a demi-official letter, and I personally saw the Minister”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I may draw the attention of the hon. Member, he is now trespassing.” (Laughter.)

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ But by the time I returned to my place the present officer was also transferred. He took charge only about one month back. All this transfer of district officers costs much to the Government. I ask why should this expenditure be incurred by the Government, when they say they have no money and when they want to impose tax to meet the increased expenditure. So in the interest of administration and public finance, I would like that these transfers made by the heads of departments concerned being scrutinized by the Minister concerned and he should exercise some control over them.

“ Another thing I would like to say is about the poor Veterinary Assistant Surgeon”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ There is no Veterinary Demand here at all.”

8th December 1947]

* SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Item 9 deals with that."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It deals with Agriculture."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" I am sorry, Sir. With these remarks, I resume my seat."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I had no intention of intervening in this debate but circumstances have forced me to rise up in my seat. My friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, suggested that it would be better if these Demands had been previously brought before this House for acceptance instead of being placed before us now. I would suggest a via media method. Perhaps hon. Members might remember the procedure adopted in the Dominion Parliament by the Hon. Prime Minister of India; and that is, they have now introduced a new idea of appointing standing committees for all the departments, so that members of the House may be associated with the actual administration of the country. I would suggest that the same procedure might be adopted here also, so that much of the discussion that is taking place in the House, here, might be avoided, and it would be a better way of associating members of this House with the administration of the Province.

" I would like to say a few words on some other matters also. While the budget was introduced last year some of us complained as to what is meant by Wardha Scheme of education and what is the sort of basic education that was sought to be introduced. I even said that I tried to find out any literature on the subject, and even the Legislature Library was not able to give me any information in the matter. And we are now in the same position as we were then. Mention is made frequently of Wardha education and Basic education and other similar things. We do not know where we are to-day. I would remind my Hon. Minister for Education to what I referred to on this matter at that time. The National Planning Committee which sat at Bombay just a few days before the budget was discussed here said that in the matter of education teaching through craft would be spiritually harmful to the children. The words 'spiritually harmful' occurred in the resolution of the committee. The Hon. Minister for Education may laugh; but it is so. The National Planning Committee which sat at Bombay at the time when the budget debate took place in this House said that imparting education through crafts would be spiritually harmful to children. The same view we had been maintaining from the beginning and we are glad the National Planning Committee had come to our view. We do not know what kind of basic education is being sought to be introduced by the Education Minister. We would be glad if we are given some idea of the basic features of the basic education, of which most of us are entirely ignorant.

[K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [8th December 1947]

" Mention was made about the Grow More Food Campaign. I do not know whether this campaign has succeeded. The Food Minister and the Government of India have said that it has not been quite successful. What tangible results have been achieved by the expenditure incurred under this scheme we are yet to know. It would be better if a systematic attempt is made in the direction. We must have a survey of all cultivable land that are not under cultivation and then adopt substantial measures to bring them under cultivation, instead of having these haphazard subventions and grants for the purpose of increasing cultivation.

" Then, Sir, I come to the question of formation of Special Armed Police. It has been a subject of much discussion in this House and some aspersions and innuendoes have been cast on it unfortunately. With regard to its recruitment, special emphasis has been made that it should be recruited only from a particular section of the people. I cannot believe the relationship between the Special Armed Police and such aspersions. I hope hon. Members will realize the implications and motives behind those aspersions. Reference has been made to the fact that the immediate formation of this Special Armed Police has been sanctioned for the better preservation of law and order and in the interests of internal security in certain parts of the Province. I would like to know how far the recruitment and employment of this Special Armed Police has been able to ensure internal security and preservation of law and order in certain parts of the Province. We all have heard much about house searches and arrests made in the northern districts and how certain members of the Police belonging to a particular community, the Muslim community, have been deprived of their arms; how on account of these searches even the house of a member of this House was searched and with what results. We know the place to which that Member belongs and not a single weapon was found as a result of those house searches. We would like to know on what basis Government acted in such a manner and thereby created a panic in the locality. We know the Special Armed Police, which was intended to maintain law and order, by its action, created panic and produced a contrary effect by its action. We know what state of panic was caused among the Muslims of the area by this act. Then we have heard of wholesale transfers of certain officials . . . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" On a point of order, may I point out that transfers do not come under this head at all."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I submit I had to speak because others had been allowed to speak."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" No, no. Nobody was allowed to speak."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the creation of the Special Armed Police which is intended for the preservation of law and order, I referred to that. I would

8th December 1947] [K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur]

also make a reference to certain private armies which are being encouraged in certain parts of this Province and which have come into conflict with the preservation of law and the work of the Police. We have heard much of the activities of the R.S.S. and the volunteers thereof and how they are being trained now. May I know what steps Government have taken to prevent their activities? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether anybody made any reference to these men? I do not think it is pertinent to the question at issue."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" I did not say that certain members of any particular community should be excluded from army. I merely said men with a certain frame of mind with a certain kind of record, in whatever part of the Province and to whatever community they may belong, should be excluded."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" My 1 p.m.
hon. Friend Dr. John talked about the impossibility of Prohibition. I must here raise my strong protest. I do not agree with him. We are wholeheartedly with the Government with regard to the Prohibition scheme. We as Muslims have been for Prohibition even before the Government decided upon Prohibition. We were always working for that and we are glad that the Government has taken it up. In this connexion, I would like to make one or two suggestions with regard to those who will be thrown out of employment as a result of the enforcement of Prohibition. Of course the Hon. Minister for Prohibition knows the details more intimately than I do. But still I would refer to that matter to emphasize it. These tappers will be thrown out of employment completely if they are prohibited from climbing the trees altogether. The Hon. Minister for Prohibition knows it that in his district, which is also my district, and the adjoining districts, sweet juice of the palmyra tree is being used as a very good drink systematically and regularly by people and also that this juice is used for making jaggery, etc. If climbing the palmyra tree is altogether prohibited then . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Where is it prohibited now? "

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I mean tapping of trees, Sir. On a former occasion, in answer to one of my supplementary questions, the Hon. Minister stated that for certain reasons the tapping of sweet juice even would not be allowed. Now, I learn from the newspapers that there is a policy that members of co-operative societies would be allowed to tap coconut juice in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara. I do not know why it should be confined only to the members of co-operative societies. I would like to urge on the Government that people who are owners of palmyra and coconut trees should be allowed to tap these trees for sweet juice both for the purpose of drinking and for the manufacture of jaggery. Otherwise it

[K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim, Sahib Bahadur] [8th December 1947]

would cause a tremendous loss to the owners of these trees. I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to consider this and take steps to introduce the necessary reform in this direction.

"Then with regard to the rural reconstruction scheme, we are yet to know what the policy of the present Government is regarding the scheme formulated by the previous Ministry. We want to know whether the whole scheme would be implemented or whether it would be taken up piecemeal.

"For Irrigation, Sir, a sum of Rs. 1.68 lakhs has been sanctioned in connexion with the Ramapadasagar scheme. The other day we heard an illuminating lecture by the Chief Engineer in the Banqueting Hall regarding the scheme. But the impression left in my mind on that day was that the whole thing is a speculative one and much research has to be made before sanction can be given to the project. Otherwise, it would be a colossal waste of public funds. I would therefore urge upon the Government to find out whether it is feasible before it is sanctioned. I know that the sanction of the Government of India would also be necessary for the purpose because they would be giving a grant in regard to this matter. But the Chief Engineer said that the scheme bristles with engineering problems which have not been tackled in any part of the world, even in America. When there are such problems to be faced, I would warn the Government not to take steps in a lighthearted manner but to find out whether all these problems could be solved before they launch on the scheme."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We rise at 1-30. Hon. Member, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, can now speak."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, at first I had no wish to intervene in this debate but since I am tempted to say a few words on some of the topics, I now rise to speak.

"With regard to the grant for the recruitment of special police, I cannot welcome this recruitment. I am sorry that we have to recruit a special police and national guards and so on. But placed as we are after the 15th of August in the situation in which we find ourselves, the Government cannot but recruit. Otherwise, we Congressmen who have been all along professing non-violence cannot straightaway begin recruitment. But as I said, since we have been placed in this situation and since all around us there is violence and bloodshed and loss of life and as we do not know how to safeguard ourselves non-violently, we have to resort to violence even. Mahatmaji used to say that running away is merely cowardice and it is not non-violence. If you cannot defend yourself non-violently at least defend yourself violently. 'That is the last remedy' he used to say. So under the circumstances we have to adopt the remedy of recruitment. But having decided to recruit, I should like to suggest to the Government that instead of recruiting only ex-servicemen as my hon. Friend Sri Adityan

8th December 1947] [Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar]

stated, and instead of recruiting only untrained civilians, they must also recruit a certain proportion of . . . (A voice : ' ex-jail men ! '). Sir, I do not say ex-jail men. I have lost faith in ex-jail men. I would suggest, Sir, that I.N.A. men must be roped in. No doubt they are recruiting some of the war-returned ex-service men. But this Government has declared in the beginning of its career that all I.N.A. men would be treated equal to the ex-service army men in the matter of recruitment to services. Consistent with that declaration, I should like now to remind this Government not to overlook the I.N.A. Recruit I.N.A. men equally with the ex-service men. You can trust the I.N.A. men. The ex-service man has served the bureaucratic Government in their great and dangerous second world war that has recently ended and they have also aided the bureaucratic Government in suppressing our freedom movement. Still we are willing to recruit them. We are willing to trust them. But our I.N.A. men have helped our freedom movement in a foreign land by waging war against the enemies of India. So they deserve better treatment at our hands than the ex-service men. At least equally recruit I.N.A. men as much as you recruit war-returned men. I would also urge that students who have been trained in U.T.C. and others who are also trained to manage arms must also be recruited, instead of recruiting raw civilians who have no experience of warfare at least as much as those who have been utilizing dummy guns and dummy swords in the U.T.C. Therefore the students who have had U.T.C. training should be encouraged, and they must be given further training.

“ Then, coming to basic education, I should like to say this. Two friends, one a Muslim gentleman and the other Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, have spoken about basic education. Both of them seem to show their ignorance of what basic education is. They have themselves declared that they did not know what it was and they have called upon the Hon. Minister for Education to explain to them what it is. Sir, basic education is education through craft. From the beginning, that is from the 5th or the 7th year, the children will be given basic education. The originator of basic education was Mr. Zakir Hussain, a Muslim gentleman. He is a great educationist and he devised the scheme of basic education. He is quite as much spiritual as our hon. Muslim gentlemen opposite. (K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur : ‘ There is no question of community in this matter at all. ’) I am not speaking of any community. Mr. Zakir Hussain’s scheme was sponsored by Mahatma Gandhi than whom there is no more spiritual man walking on this earth. So, Sir, there is no fear that this basic education will spoil the spiritual sense of the children. And then with regard to the craft-centred education, it is taught through a craft, namely spinning, carpentry or agriculture or any other craft you may choose. Through that craft you teach the children the three R’s. We do not teach them by means of text books. Of course, for certain purposes, text books may be used. Even without text books, the children may be taught in their mother-tongue

[Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar] [8th December 1947]

all the three R's up to the S.S.L.C. standard. Why, even post basic education also, namely, education in the college classes, may be taught by means of this basic education scheme.

"Of course, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao in his speech stated 'Why do you want these two institutions? Why not the present training institutions train up teachers? Why cannot you use the present training institutions?' I say, Sir, that the present training institutions are not capable of training basic teachers. The training given by the present institutions is very defective. Our children who have studied under such teachers have not benefited very much. My only grouse is that the Hon. Education Minister has not taken my advice and started more training institutions of the basic character. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister for Education not to be content with the two training institutions now started but to get more teachers and start more training institutions."

1-15 P.m. SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, I had no intention of taking part in this debate, but the subsequent events which have happened here have necessitated my taking part in it. Sir, much has been said about recruitment to the police. Some hon. Members have pleaded for ex-service men and some others have pleaded that I.N.A. men should also be appointed. When the hon. Member Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar was speaking, the hon. Member Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu interrupted and said: 'Jail returned men or ex-jail men'. Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar said that he had lost faith in them. I do not know why he should say so. I am surprised. I plead for ex-jail men. When the Congress Government is in power, I think all places of advantage must be given to Congressmen who have served the country faithfully, loyally and with great enthusiasm."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"And other places of disadvantage to others?"

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO :—"Congressmen need not have a monopoly of all places, because they have served the country before. There are many Congressmen—able, enthusiastic, honest and sincere, who are willing to serve in the Police department. Why should you shut them out? Every opportunity should be given to them. If you want to eradicate corruption, it is better to take in as many Congressmen as possible.

"With regard to Prohibition, what is the use of getting ex-servicemen for the Prohibition department. Congressmen have boycotted toddy shop, gone to jail and have suffered for the cause. Only such people who are enthusiastic about prohibition should be employed in these dry areas. There is no use of appointing people who are used to drink and asking them to combat the drink evil. When it is a question of prohibition, it is only Congressmen who can work it, because they have suffered for this noble cause and

8th December 1947] [Sri Mothey Narayana Rao]

they are enthusiastic about it. They have suffered incarceration for this purpose. They alone can fight the drink evil. To fight the drink evil Congressmen should be employed.

“ Sir, with regard to basic education, the idea was conceived by that great man whose portrait we got unveiled in this House the other day. The idea came out of the great brain of the greatest man of the world. It is high time that we see to it that every higher educational institution in this Province as a basic education school. I am sorry to see that the Government are going so very slow in the matter and there are only two training schools. We cannot expect good results with these two schools only. I want to urge upon the Government to open as many training centres as possible immediately. I would urge that all the training schools at present existing should be converted into basic education training schools. It is absolutely necessary. It is only then that we will have basic education throughout the province. It is only then that we will be able to train our young men properly and give them an education that will fit them to become good citizens in their life after their studies. Our Education Minister should not pay more attention to College education but to basic education which is the life of the country. It is the bounden duty of the Government to see that every boy is given a proper basic education as quickly as possible.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. Minister for Education wants to speak. Are there any other Hon. Ministers who want to speak in addition to the Hon. Finance Minister? ”

(Hon. Ministers Mr. Daniel Thomas, Dr. P. Subbarayan and Sri K. Madhava Menon wanted to speak.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ So four more Ministers on the Government side want to speak.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Sir, with regard to recruitment for Government service I have heard arguments suggesting that one type of person or another type of person should be given preference. In recruiting people for security services like the police, the Government should bear in mind that the most essential thing is discipline. I have absolutely no objection to Government selecting anybody they like, to their selecting the I.N.A. men, or all Congressmen or those who are in favour of the party in power. But one thing is most necessary at the present juncture and that is discipline of which we see so little to-day. I speak with a due sense of responsibility when I say that it is not fair, after independence has been declared, when we all belong to one nation as we feel we belong to one nation, that there must be brought in these differences that existed previous to 15th August and persons should be frequently referring to these differences and keeping the sore open, as it were. The first and foremost duty of people who believe in one nation is to see to it that all such issues as can be possibly avoided are avoided with a view to promote that spirit of unity which we all have at heart. I cannot but refer in

[Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar] [8th December 1947]

this connection to the constant prayers that have been given expression to by the greatest personality of the day, Mahatma Gandhi and also to the expression of his sincere regret at the lack of such feeling by His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachariar. I have absolutely no doubt that if we continue to have these fissiparous tendencies, this country, far from progressing in the manner it ought to, far from leading to a union of greater India, which I visualize as possible and practicable even in our own lifetime—these questions, and counter-questions, these suspicions and counter-suspicions—will certainly make the country go down the path of destruction if we are not on guard.

“ Sir, reference has been made to a certain type of people who have done meritorious service. I am not one to say ‘no’ to such things. But I certainly object to talking about ex-servicemen in the manner in which unfortunately some of the hon. Members have spoken. I know them very intimately and I can tell the House from personal knowledge of what has happened in the various campaigns that these ex-servicemen have conducted themselves with great dignity and credit and determination, always imbued by the patriotism for the country. It is wrong to call them mercenaries. In that respect all of us are mercenaries. I have been intimately connected with a recruitment board and I have had dozens and scores of ex-servicemen—medical men and others—coming to me. I know that the freedom of the country was won not only by the fight carried on in the political field, but also to a much greater degree by the fight that was carried on in those remote corners of the world, in the deserts of Sahara, in the devil’s cauldron as it is called, in Egypt and in Malaya. They have fought for the country in a disciplined and well-ordered manner and saved the country from the invasion of the Hitlerian hordes, which if it had materialized, would have made our demand for independence a mockery.

“ Sir, I want to raise this one point for the consideration of the Government. You may recruit anybody you like to any post. By all means give the posts to those who have been the prime movers in putting the party in power. But when it comes to those services where discipline is the first essential, let the record of the person be examined from the point of view of discipline. I have no doubt whatsoever that if this is done, a proper set-up will be given to the forces that are in the management of the Government.

“ Sir, reference has been made to the I.N.A. people. Are we not aware of reports in the papers that some of the I.N.A. people are behind those tribes people who are now attacking the borders of Kashmir? I ask hon. Members to pause. It is not a question of belonging to this or that particular organization. It is a question of the record you have in regard to discipline. To-day when one reads the papers, I am shocked as a Government servant of the speeches that are being made by Government servants and the manner in which the authority of the Government is being flouted.

8th December 1947] [Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar]

I would ask the Hon. the Home Minister to take stock of the situation. It is not a question of merely deciding what ought to be given as the proper wage of Government servants. But if the spirit of indiscipline is introduced into Government service, whatever you may do to relieve the unfortunate position in which they find themselves you will have weakened the country and the Government. The old bureaucracy was blamed for many things. But I think there was a certain amount of sense in instilling a strong feeling of discipline in every member of the service. I would appeal to the Government to keep in mind first and foremost this mentality of discipline in recruiting for the Police force and the other security services in general. There is too much indiscipline in the Government service. As I said before, I was shocked as a Government servant of many years standing, that there should be so much indiscipline in the services. That indiscipline should be checked in the early stage. I am afraid that the Government have already given too much latitude to Government servants in this respect. If that is not checked, no Government will be stable. We shall be faced with a situation with which France and some of the European countries are faced to-day. Our independence will not be ours. A stern sense of discipline should be brought to bear upon the Government servants. That is the only reason, I felt compelled to rise just now in view of the many remarks which have been made to-day. My prayer to the Government is this. I do not propose to advise them. I do not propose to ask them. This is my prayer to them. Fundamentally, discipline is most important for any Government, not merely for this Government. If this Government does not keep up discipline, no other Government will function."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

The Deputy President occupied the Chair.

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, two impressions have been generated in this House. The first impression is to congratulate the Government and the second impression, which naturally follows from the first, is to speak. To-day I want not only to speak but also to congratulate the Government on the very fine supplementary budget that has been placed before the House. The first budget was said to be an Advisers' budget, and therefore Mr. Prakasam had an easy time. The second budget was said to be Mr. Prakasam's budget and therefore it went off smoothly. This at any rate is pure Congress budget after the Congress Government have been in office for seven months. Therefore we must congratulate the Government on the salutary provisions which they have made in the budget for the vital needs of the countryside, and for undertaking vast measures to improve the resources of the country.

" The main consideration which will weigh with the House or the Government is that we are out of one kharif year and at the beginning of another kharif year. Two food debates have

[Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu] [8th December 1947]

been raised in this House and I was waiting for a third debate. But the Hon. Food Minister, leaving aside the Council, has gone to the radio and the press and I am wondering what is all this about. He considers the food situation very grave. That is the position with regard to dollars and several other matters. The Government must be congratulated for the able manner in which they have made provision to meet the food crisis in the country. (At this stage, the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan entered and occupied his seat.) Now that the Hon. Food Minister has come, I must personally congratulate him on the very able way in which he has provided for improving the food production in the Province. Irrigation, agriculture and electricity—these are the three main things which have some bearing on food production, and I see the Food Minister's hand in the provision for these items. Under Irrigation, there is provision for remodelling the Umblacheri South Rajan channel in the Tanjore district. The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 36,000. The second item under the demand is for the purchase of 560 pairs of Fordingham steel sheet piles, the total cost being 2 lakhs. No idea is given regarding how much is going to be spent on Irrigation and how much on Electricity Departments. We will give due credit to the Government for allotting 2 lakhs for this purpose. The third item is for the provision of additional quarters at Polavaram for the staff engaged on the investigation of the Ramapadasagar Scheme. The next demand is for a new grow more food work sanctioned for introduction in the course of the current year. The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 4,80,000. The expenditure during the current year alone is estimated at Rs. 50,000. That is the first contribution which the Ministry has made for tiding over the food crisis. I am not at all belittling their magnificent contribution. After all, Rs. 50,000 is not a small sum.

“One other demand is for Agriculture. The Hon. Minister has managed to get 40 sets of small tractors at a cost of Rs. 3,69,820. The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon must be congratulated and I do wish to congratulate him. May I know how many acres will a tractor plough? For the vast millions of acres in the Province, you have purchased 40 small tractors at a cost of Rs. 3,69,820. Of course, the Minister says that half the cost will be borne by the Government of India. But how many acres will they plough? We are going to get 20 crude oil engines for a Province with a vast acreage of land. Is it not a magnificent figure? We are going to get also 100 pelapone oil engines at a cost of a little over 3 lakhs. This is the programme which a Government wedded to peasants and kisans has put forward. Our Saint Gandhiji has said that kisan should be the first item before any other item of work is taken up. The tractors will not plough more than 10 lakhs of acres at the most. You want to purchase 40 sets of small tractors, hire them, create confusion, black-marketing and competition. Forty tractors, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar alone will swallow for his fields. (Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: ‘I am not able to digest even one.’) It is

8th December 1947] [Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu]

most derogatory to this Government to say that they are improving agriculture by 40 small tractors and 20 crude oil engines. We are in the throes of a famine. Yesterday the Food Minister said that we could not get more than 8 oz. ration. Do you think crude oil engines are necessary for growing more food and also the tractors? What are the other efforts which you have made? Is this the sum total of your programme after seven months of office and when we are nearing the end of a full year?

“ There is another provision. The Hon. Food Minister has made a magnificent provision of Rs. 16,000. For what? For the control of rat pests in Tanjore district. If the rats which swallow grains are destroyed, then he will give us 12 oz. or 16 oz. or whatever it is. I do not know anything about rat pest. It was in the West Kistna district. The ryots employed some fumigation methods and killed the rats. What for is this Rs. 16,000? Is it for employment of officers? [The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar: ‘For the employment of rats.’ (Laughter.)] I say: Don’t create this rat affair. You have fuel officers, coke officers and so on. Don’t add these rat officers to the army of your employees. Where is the need for Rs. 16,000? Are there not agricultural maistris in the province? They can apply cynogas fumigation methods and kill the rats. Which ryot will allow his field to be destroyed by rats and his grain to be eaten away by them without taking proper preventive measures? As Minister for Public Health in 1939, he would have liked to do away with rats in his Public Health Act, because they were the cause of infection. From Public Health Minister, he has become Food Minister. By the destruction of rats, he will save us from famine. That is the real reason why I said that he deserved congratulations.

“ Then, there is a demand for the formation of four mobile units for the purpose of maintaining law and order. We know full well that if there is food scarcity, the first thing we must have is mobile units. That is the way to fight famine and grow more food. We must have four mobile units. Why? To take away the grain from the ryots at the point of the bayonet, and to kill the producers.

“ There is another thing that I want to mention and that is with regard to electricity. You have already taken up the Madras Electric Supply Corporation under your control. There is no other provision in the supplementary estimate so far as electricity is concerned, except the purchase of 25,000 yardage of service cables which is required for the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. May I know from the Hon. Minister concerned or from the Hon. Premier—and if he cannot be present here and answer, let him at least answer through the telephone from his room—whether the Government have got any constructive suggestions to make with regard to supplying electricity to our rural parts. What are they going to do with the 25,000 yardage of cables which they are

[Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu] [8th December 1947]

going to purchase? Is it going to be used in the town areas or is it going to be used in the rural areas? But this is intended for the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and therefore I daresay, these cables are not going to be used in rural areas. They are going to be used by persons in towns who will get cheap electricity. (An hon. Member: 'This concerns only the City of Madras.') Yes, I know it is going to be used in the City and it seems it is more urgent that the City must have more electricity than the rural parts. Why not the Government pay the same attention to our rural areas, where also electricity is needed equally urgently? I want to know why some portion of this yardage could not be carried to the villages for the purpose of supplying cheap electricity to the villages for the grow-more-food campaign and why should this be used in the City alone? I do not know whether these cables could be used in the villages or not, but I want that the Government should show the same interest to our rural areas also, so that the villagers could also get cheap electricity."

* SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI:—"Mr. Deputy President, during the long time when the British were ruling this country, large sums of money were spent only on the improvement of cities and towns, but they did not devote their attention to the improvement of villages. But the Congress programme is that villages should be improved, that the old village lives and village institutions should be restored and that village industries should be revived and since the Congress came to power, they were devoting their attention to village uplift. If the country is to prosper, it is the villages and the villages alone that should be improved and it is the duty of the present Congress Government to devote more attention for the improvement of villages. The Firka Development Scheme that was inaugurated by the present Congress Government has been functioning very well and the villages in the various firkas have shown considerable improvement. Large quantities of khadi cloth have been made in these firkas and in the matter of cloth, at least, these villages are self-sufficient. If more electricity is supplied to these villages, there will be more acres under cultivation, there will be more food production and there will be more cottage industries flourishing and therefore the present Government should devote more attention to the supply of cheap electricity to the villages. Our friends from all sides of the House have been urging upon the Government to devote their attention to this aspect of the problem rather than spending more money for the improvement of towns.

"Then, Sir, basic education is another item of the Congress programme and this should be taken up in right earnest. The present system of education that is imparted to our children in the villages is antiquated and does not contribute to the improvement of village life. It is the basic education alone that can contribute towards rural development. Much money need not be spent by the Government, because the boys learning through craft will themselves be able to contribute to some extent, the funds that are

8th December 1947] [Sri P. Veerabhadraswami]

necessary for running those schools, by their own work. Therefore basic education should be extended to almost all the villages as early as possible and training classes should be opened to train teachers in basic education in large numbers.

" During last year, some Arts colleges have been started and more students have been absorbed into these colleges. But it is not the Arts graduates that are required now-a-days. It is the Engineering graduates that are required in large numbers now-a-days. We want civil engineers to look after our irrigation and road works; we want mechanical engineers to look after our existing industries and the industries that are to be started hereafter; we want electrical engineers to look after the expansion of our electrical schemes; and in order to turn out more engineers like these in a very short time, we will have to start more Engineering colleges and their courses of study should be shortened and their working hours should be made longer every day, and thus the course of study should be contracted to two years by arranging the classes for 8 hours a day, just as the factories have been doing to produce more. So, I would appeal to the Government to see that more Engineering colleges are started and more funds are provided for the purpose.

" Sir, our Finance Minister may complain that necessary funds are not forthcoming, or that necessary funds are not available. I think that the sales-tax to be collected next year will bring forth a bumper crop and we can make necessary provision at least in the next year to start more Engineering colleges and schools. Even with regard to overseers, we have got a shortage and I am glad that enough provision has been already made in the current year's budget for the training of more overseers and this is a welcome sign.

" Then, with regard to police, I am glad that recruitment has been going on and there is expansion in the various police forces. It is a welcome sign that the Government have realized that there must be a greater police force to maintain law and order and to protect the lives and properties of the people. The Government should not stop with that. They must also give military training to at least 5 per cent of the people in the country, because they would augment the police force in times of civil commotion and when more people are required for the police force, they could be recruited from those people who were already trained.

" With regard to the enforcement of prohibition, the Government have been taking into their service a large number of people. I would appeal to them to enlist as large a number of Congress workers as possible, because they are more experienced in this work and because they have been doing propaganda work in the villages and can also do detection work.

" Lastly, Sir, coming to the important question, namely, that of political sufferers and those who have suffered in the various Congress campaigns, our Ministers have promised to give them relief and our Revenue Minister has also promised to allot them

[Sri P. Veerabhadraswami] [8th December 1947]

at the rate of five acres of wet land or ten acres of dry land for each person. In the case of some others who cannot work on land, I would suggest that they might be given some money allowance. It is but just that those who have suffered for the country should be given priority in the matter of relief by our Congress Government."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

" Mr. Deputy President, I wish that such of those friends who expressed this morning that they want enlightenment on basic education were now present here. I think that a convention must be created that those who criticise the Government must be present to hear the reply of the Government when they make it.

" Sir, about the remarks of my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao I do not wish to go into the history as to what happened in the year 1937 when the previous Congress Ministry was in power. My hon. Friend said that the then Hon. Premier (now His Excellency) Sri C. Rajagopalachari after going into the whole question of basic education decided that the system of elementary education obtaining in this Province was about the best system and had all the elements of the basic education in it. I do not know where he got this information from, but I know that His Excellency was himself one of the greatest protagonists of basic education and that he would not certainly have done so, because there is a vast difference between the system of education that is imparted in our elementary schools and the real basic education that Mr. C. Rajagopalachari had in mind. The training that our teachers get in the method of teaching elementary education is absolutely different from the system of training that is given at the basic education centre at Wardha.

" My hon. Friend also asked why two fresh schools should be started and why the training in basic education should not be introduced in our existing training schools. Sir, we have started these two basic training schools for the present, because it is in those places that we have got the necessary atmosphere, equipment and personnel and it is our intention that very soon other training schools should be opened in other centres also on these lines, if they prove successful. For that very reason, it is our proposal that 28 teachers should be trained first in those two centres and when they get back to their schools after training, they will be asked to introduce basic education in those schools and if this scheme proves successful, we will extend it to other centres also.

" Now, Sir, I come to the point raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranga Reddi about shifting the Anantapur Engineering College to Anantapur. The Government are very anxious that this college should be shifted to Anantapur in the next college year. For this purpose one of the military buildings has been purchased by the Government and the Government expect that they will be able to shift the Anantapur Engineering College to Anantapur in the next academic year.

8th December 1947] [Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar]

“ I have nothing more to add, except to say a word about the starting of more engineering colleges. The cost of an engineering college is very high and for the equipments and buildings alone the cost will come to about Rs. 1½ crores, not to speak of the cost of the staff necessary. Moreover such equipments are not easily available and it will take a long time before we can secure them. Neither have we got the necessary trained personnel ready with us. While the Government are as anxious as any hon. Member of this House to open more technical institutes, they must first of all see that the existing institutes work efficiently before they can think of opening new institutions and that is why the Government are devoting more attention to equipping existing institutions first and when they get the necessary materials and the trained personnel, then it will be time enough for them to think of opening more institutions in the other districts.

“ I have nothing more to add, Sir, except to thank hon. Members who have made various suggestions in regard to education and their suggestions will be borne in mind.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. Deputy President, 3 p.m.
Sir, I shall first deal with the point raised by Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar who unfortunately is not present here; but I know private work as Vice-Chancellor perhaps demands his presence elsewhere. I am entirely with him in what he said for the discipline in the services. In the Police especially, I grant all that he has said, discipline is all important; and unless we have a disciplined force, it will be impossible for any Government to keep law and order in the way they want to keep. So, recruitment to the special police will be made with that in our mind all the time. This special police force, I may say, is wanted because we feel, circumstanced as we are to-day in the Indian Union, when the armed forces of the Government of India are required in many places and as other military men would tell you, dispersal is not the way in which a country could be defended, that it is for this province to see that at least in the matter of keeping law and order under civil disturbances, we do not cut into the defence forces of the Union which are wanted for other purposes. As far as it lies in the powers of the Provincial Government, they ought to be able to put down any civil commotion with the police force available in their hands. It is with this in view that the Government have suggested the employment of mobile units which will be stationed both in the Andhra and in the Tamil districts, so that they could be moved to whatever direction the Government may need to move them. There is no question of using these people, as my friend Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, who ought to know better, talked about, for the procurement of food. Because that is not a work which these mobile units are supposed to do. They are supposed to preserve law and order, and I repeat that for the preservation of law and order, perhaps even the supply of foodgrains may be necessary; and if they are not sufficiently forthcoming, the police may be necessary; but in my experience during the last six months,

[Dr. P., Subbarayan]

[8th December 1947]

that has not been found necessary. Our people are peace-loving, and they do not want interference from the police in the matter of food; and we have been lucky enough during this year and a half when the Congress Government have been in power, not to utilize the police for that purpose.

" I am also grateful to Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar for what he said about the armed forces of the Indian Union. I may say here that whatever might have been the view with which they were regarded before our independence came on the 15th of August, the tradition and the glory of the Indian army is something that we might well be proud of. As Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar said, in the Sahara desert, in Italy, in Egypt and also in the Middle-East, our soldiers have distinguished themselves in a manner which can stand scrutiny by any Military experts with regard to the behaviour of the Indian army. Even in Burma, when Burma was re-captured, it was entirely through the efforts of the Indian army; and we need not treat them as strangers to-day because they are part of the army of the Indian Union, and their glorious exploits in Kashmir will stand to prove that to-day they are loyal to the Indian Union. And as His Excellency said the other day in unveiling the portrait of Mahatmaji here, it is an army that we ought to be proud of. It is a citizen's army bound to defend the Indian Union against all aggression. And there are distinguished soldiers in the Indian Army who have done well both in the Middle East and in the desert, whose experience will stand in good stead if any necessity arises for the defence of this country. I, as the father of a soldier of that Indian Army, am proud of their exploits and what is more, he fortunately distinguished himself in a manner which is worthy of any soldier on the field of battle (hear, hear). Therefore, if they are called mercenaries, I naturally resent that expression because they did what they thought was their duty. I would like to remind the hon. Members that when they joined the forces of the Indian army, they took a certain oath, and if they proved themselves capable of maintaining the oath, I would like hon. gentlemen to know that itself shows what amount of discipline was theirs and it is that discipline alone which can keep a well-trained and well-equipped army in this country. Therefore, I hope, now that the army is ours, that this talk of mercenary force will cease. I leave it at that.

" My friend Mr. Adityan who also unfortunately is not here, talked about the Indian National Army and their recruitment to this special force. We are not putting any ban on the recruitment of Indian officers of the Indian National Army; they can apply for being taken into this special police just as anybody else, and selection will entirely be on merits; and if such men deserve to be impanelled into the new forces, they would certainly be taken into it; because this Government do not mean to observe any distinction between the service men who serve in the regular forces and the members of the Indian National Army; they stand on the same footing as far as this Government are concerned.

8th December 1947] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

“ My hon. Friend from Tinnevely who is also not here, Mr. Ibrahim, talked of the distinction that is being made. I have said in the other House that this is a secular State, and I agree with the great Prime Minister of the Indian Union, that it is not a State composed of any one community; it is a State which works in the name of all the people of this country. But I also want to make it clear to my hon. Friends opposite that there cannot be two loyalties in a State. They must make up their mind to which State their loyalty is due. (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur rose in his seat.) I am not going to yield, Sir. They must make up their mind to which State their loyalty is due, because if they want to live in the Indian Union and be loyal to the Indian Union, they must form part and parcel of the people of the Union of India. Because we are now two different States, you cannot have one foot in this camp and another foot in the other camp. That can never be, and that can never be tolerated, because, situated as we are, the position being as delicate as it is to-day (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur : ‘ Is there any occasion for the Minister to suspect us like that? ’) I am not yielding, Sir, if the hon. Gentleman wants to have his say, he can have it at the end. All that I am saying is : there is no question of suspicion; but there is in the minds of people a suspicion of danger and it is up to my hon. Friends opposite to see that the suspicion no longer exists. That is all I wish to say; because, I do feel as I said in the beginning, situated as we are, we have got to work and it is impossible to say what the Government might do. My hon. Friend complained of transfers. Though I myself said it is out of order, I must refer to it at least for a few moments; the Government transferred such officers as they did, not because they belonged to a particular community but because they felt exigencies of the service demanded such transfer. And no Government will be worth the name unless they took steps betimes to do what they think is proper for the maintenance of law and order. It is only in that spirit that transfers that have been made were made; and if the Government failed to take such steps or stock of the situation, they would be failing in their duty to the people of this country if anything happened for which they could be blamed, just because they did not take steps in time which they thought necessary for the preservation of law and order.

“ I know, Sir, there is a feeling that the Government are applying their mind to a particular community. I can assure my hon. Friends on the opposite side that such is not the intention of the Government. And I repeat what the great Prime Minister of India said that we make no distinction of caste, community or creed in the administration of this land. All that we are concerned with is the maintenance of order, maintenance of peace, so that this country could advance in the manner that we have dreamed of for years. What we want to do is to rear a nation in this country which—and that is the creed and the path of the Government of the day—can be an example to the rest of the world, so that all these bickerings, all these suspicions that seem

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

[8th December 1947]

to exist and which have led to two great wars might be put an end to. As the Prime Minister of India has explained, this country's basic principle is the preservation of peace in the world, and towards that, all efforts of the Government, both Central and Provincial, will be set; but at the same time, we know very well that the best form of defence is to be prepared for all eventualities, and it is this that both the Central and Provincial Governments are preparing for. And if the special police force is wanted to-day, it is not because the Government want to use it in any wrong manner, but it is because the Government want to raise confidence in the minds of the people that there are forces at the hands of the Government which will be utilized for protecting the property, life and the hearth of the common people of this land. It is only with that idea that this special police force has been organized, and you may be certain that my hon. Friend the Finance Minister, whom I consider to be a very careful watch-dog, would not have given in to the implementing of the proposal that has been made with regard to this special police force if he were not convinced that this was necessary, situated as we are, circumstanced as we are, for the preservation of law and order. I hope, Sir, my hon. Friends opposite will not misunderstand me when I say that I want them to be good citizens of this Union. I am looking forward to the day when they will occupy seats on this side of the House; because, as a secular state, we want all communities represented; but at the same time, they must also realise that with the suspicion that has been engendered because of the two-nation theory for which they in many ways were responsible—they cannot discountenance this statement and they themselves wanted the partition of this country, and because of the feeling that the minorities may not be treated properly in this land—our leaders gave in finally to the two-nation plan; and they felt that the two Dominions, as they are called, might live in peace. But unfortunately things have happened which have engendered suspicion in the minds of the people of this Union. Therefore, if we have got to take care betimes, I am afraid the responsibility must be laid not at our doors, but at other doors. And that, Sir, is my justification for the special police force."

3-15
p.m.

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir."

DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I think the Government have begun replying . . . "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition can given any personal explanation which he wants."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, it was rather painful for me to intervene in this debate which was going on in a very happy manner. I do not propose to criticise or answer some of the charges or some of the suspicions which the Hon. the Home Minister has just now given. Sir, within the last one week, you might have noticed that news is coming from all

8th December 1947] [K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur]

quarters that everyone is trying to allay suspicion on both sides, and that great men and great leaders are assembled in different parts of the country to allay suspicion and to remove the ill-feeling from the minds of the public. Sir, a Conference is going on in Lahore. His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari and Mahatma Gandhi are giving expression to words which have a very soothing and consoling effect on the minorities. At this juncture, the Hon. the Home Minister had no reason to refer to unhappy events which have happened in some parts of India. Everybody deplores such unhappy incidents. Even yesterday, we saw in the papers that a Conference is going on between the Dominion of India representative and the Pakistan representative. At this juncture, if the Hon. the Home Minister of this Province gives expression to those ideas, it only shows that he still suspects and it is rather painful. I ask him, is there any reason within the last three months to suspect the Muslims of this Province. He himself has admitted that there is nothing to prove that the Muslims of this place are disloyal. Our loyalty has been given expression to by our leaders from responsible quarters.

“ Sir, with regard to the transfer of officials from Malabar, it has given room for a certain amount of fear because all on a sudden, one fine morning, all the Muslim Police officials, all the Sub-Inspectors and all the Circle Inspectors were under orders of transfer. In the Special Police, up till recently, mixed companies were formed of Muslims, Hindus, Christians and others but recently all the Muslims from those companies have been combed out and even sent out of the Province. This created a certain amount of fear among the Muslims, because they wanted to know what is the real reason behind these. Searches were also made in the houses of Muslims in Andhradesa, but as the Hon. Minister has said, nothing was found in those houses. As I have already mentioned, at this juncture, it is regrettable to see responsible men like the Hon. the Home Minister giving expression to such things. (At this stage, the Hon. the President took the Chair.) Mr. President, Sir, the Hon. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has asked the Government to create good feeling and good understanding and I believe the Hon. the Home Minister has listened to his advice. It is not by any threat that he can govern this country; it is by instilling mutual understanding, a brotherly feeling and a feeling of confidence in the minorities that their lives are safe and that their culture is safe that he can govern this Province. It is for the men who have got the power to infuse a feeling of friendship, courage and confidence in the minds of the minorities and it is not for smaller men to do it. We say we are loyal. I do not understand the way in which we can give expression to this loyalty on the floor of this House, but I will simply say that I will fight and I will die to preserve the honour of the Union Flag. If such an expression cannot be sufficient, what else, does the Hon. the Home Minister expect from the Muslims to show their loyalty? I again feel that the power that is in his hands must be used to create confidence in us that we are safe and that our interests will be protected. That is all what I have to say in explanation.”

[8th December 1947]

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ I have only one word to say in reply to my hon. Friend. I had not used or intended to use any threat. No Government can exist on threats; it is only by the preservation of a feeling of friendliness among the public at large, the Government can exist. I hope the hon. Gentleman's speech would help make things better because I was very glad to hear his affirmation of loyalty to the Union Flag.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ I have not got much to say in reply. The hon. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao said regarding the Agricultural department in the Supplementary Estimate for March 1947, that provision was made for the purchase of pumps, tractors, jeeps, etc., from Thompson Disposals Committee and asked whether those things were purchased. If I remember correctly, in reply to a question in this House or in the other House, I have given figures of the things purchased from Thompson Disposals. I may state now that 750 and odd petrol pumps were purchased and all of them are in use. They are hired to cultivators. A large number of applications—about 800 applications—are still pending according to priority for the use of these pumps. Forty tractors with 20 bulldozers have been purchased from Thompson Disposals and they have been hired to various people. Some of them are not in use now for want of spare parts. I may also state that it is no use resorting to these petrol pumps because they are not economical. So, we are trying to displace these petrol pumps by Diesel oil engines. Even kerosene pumps are found to be uneconomical. These forty sets of small tractors are only a part of the hundred sets that are purchased. Besides this, we have already placed orders for fifty caterpillar tractors. They are small tractors and will not be of great benefit to cultivators but the roads and the culverts under present conditions cannot take on the big tractors. It is only part of the scheme and we are going to order for one hundred such tractors.

“ Then, Sir, as is usual with Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, he congratulated the Government sarcastically and said that we are beyond redemption. We also feel that he is beyond redemption in certain matters. About the danger of destruction of grains by rats and rat-pests, everybody knows that in Tanjore, it has become an alarming feature and over ten lakhs of rupees worth of grains are lost owing to these rats. If you read the statements in the memorandum, you will find, it is not in Tanjore alone the agriculturists suffer on account of these rats but also in certain other districts. They are paying at the rate of As. 3 to As. 6 per rat that is caught and killed. We are trying to exterminate them by means of cynogas and a large recurring expenditure has to be incurred for the purchase of this cynogas. We shall certainly extend this to other districts where there is this rat-pest; for the present, we are watching the effect of this cynogas in Tanjore.”

* **THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—**“ Mr. President, Sir, so far as the provision for a grant for the Prohibition enforcement staff is concerned, I think there is not much serious and substantial criticism of the policy of the Government in regard to

8th December 1947] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

Prohibition, and that policy as implemented by the Government of Madras has been assented to by both Houses of the Legislature. The only question now is one of enforcement. I am sure hon. Members will agree that Government are adopting that scheme for the purpose of uplifting the economic and social life of the masses of the people in the country. Government are prepared to sacrifice their revenue to the tune of 17 crores and so, it is up to the Government to see that proper measures are adopted in implementing this scheme. As the Hon. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar pointed out, there are various difficulties which Government have to face, difficulties inherent in the very nature of the situation, lack of co-operation of interested parties, nature of the terrain of the country, the remote and unfrequented places which are resorted to for the purpose of illicit distillation and so on. These difficulties have to be faced by the Government and these cannot be simply brushed aside. These are difficulties which call for resolute tackling. I may submit three things are necessary for carrying out the enforcement successfully. The first is the provision of adequate staff. The work is very difficult and the provision of adequate enforcement staff for the purpose of enforcing the policy, is a prime necessity. Hon. Members are aware that in the United States of America, prohibition policy was tried for a period of time. Even the supreme Government of the United States adopted the law of prohibition but enforcement was left more or less to the will and pleasure of individual states, and most of the individual states were indifferent to the cause of Prohibition. That is why Prohibition failed in the United States of America and had to be abolished. I believe, Sir, the people of this Province will do well to take a lesson from America. I submit, Sir, that one lesson we must keep in mind from America is about the provision of adequate staff for this purpose of enforcement.

“ The second thing that is necessary is a competent and honest staff to carry out the policy of Prohibition. That again is a difficulty with which the Madras Government is faced. At present we are taking over a good number of officials from the Excise Department who were previously put on the collection of excise revenues and they are now engaged on a new line of work. I believe, Sir, that the Excise people who are put on this Prohibition work do the work fairly well, but ultimately, the enforcement may have to be entirely entrusted to the Police staff. That is one of the things that will be brought before this House in due time and necessary action will be taken thereon.

“ Then again, another important factor for the enforcement of Prohibition, as has also been pointed out by several hon. Members, is the necessary public co-operation. I may state here that enlightened public opinion in this Province is in favour of the policy of Prohibition. The Muslim community, as has been pointed by Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib, is for total prohibition and

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

[8th December 1947]

there are also many other classes. Thus there is a large and wide-spread demand with regard to the enforcement of the policy of Prohibition. In fact, Government are going much slower than public opinion in this Province who are demanding that the whole Province should go dry at one stroke. As a matter of administrative policy and also having regard to the finances, we are going fairly steadily; at the same time, we want to ensure that Prohibition is enforced effectively and successfully in the areas that have gone dry before we extend it to new areas.

3-30
p.m.

" My friend, Dr. John, who, I am sorry, is not before me, talked of a suggestion that the mature palmyra trees in the Province should be cut down. I may say the remedy suggested is far worse than the imaginary disease which he seeks to cure. I believe he is a tender-hearted person. Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, one of the greatest scientists, of whom India may be proud, has discovered that trees and plants have life and are sensitive to pain and react sensitively to violence and I am sure that Dr. John has not put forth his suggestion seriously. At the same time, he says, that we must step up production. Sir, palmyra tree in the districts in which it grows in plenty, namely, Tinnevely, Ramnad and West Godavari, is hailed as the ' Kalpakavriksha ' which gives everything that a man requires for his living; it provides for his hunger, it gives shelter from sun and rain, supplies baskets for carrying utensils and gives everything else that he wants. I agree with my hon. Friend Mr. Ibrahim Sahib, when he says that every possible provision should be made for the drawing of palmyra juice for making it into jaggery because food situation is difficult; that it should not be cut down because it gives abundant relief to the lower classes of people. I may say that in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, North Arcot and Chittoor alone jaggery to the tune of Rs. 13,800 has been produced during the last one year or so. That shows the enormous possibility that is before the country in the matter of manufacture of palmyra jaggery which is essential as food for the people of the Province.

" Then, Sir, my friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao remarked, why so much enforcement staff at so great a cost. I may tell him that so far as the Prohibition enforcement staff of the Excise department is concerned, the entire cost is accounted as a separate item and though they were originally in the Excise staff they were taken out of the Excise department and the cost of the staff, allowance, etc., are put down under Prohibition enforcement item. I may also tell him that except the higher officials it is necessary to recruit a number of lower officials, for instance, prohibition guards, petty officers, Sub-Inspectors, for the purpose of enforcing prohibition in these areas, because, as I have already said, enforcement of prohibition is much more difficult than the collection of excise revenue and so more staff is necessary for successfully working it. Therefore provision has been made for the three West Coast districts, and for Nellore and Guntur and I am sure hon. Members will agree that it is a necessary

8th December 1947]

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

provision for properly enforcing Prohibition. Otherwise it would be a penny wise and pound foolish policy. When we have committed ourselves to the policy of Prohibition it is necessary to provide for an adequate staff for enforcing it and therefore we have provided for it."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the purpose for which the supplementary demands were presented before the House is more than well-served, not only for getting the general approval of the House, but also for getting the necessary information on the various activities of the Government. As I said this is a new innovation of presenting supplementary demands in the middle of a year and I think we are thoroughly justified in having done it and I am glad the House also has appreciated the intentions of the Government in this respect, but I am sorry to find that my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, has forgotten the original Budget that was presented in March or February last and he thought that the supplementary demands represented the entire Budget and the entire activities of the Government during the current year (Interruption by Mr. B. Narayanaswami Nayudu). It is not as though about 15 supplementary demands represent the entire governmental activities with regard to the various development schemes. We have a Budget of 40 or 50 crores of rupees before us, various items have been sanctioned by the Government, various programmes have been drawn up and the departmental heads are very busy in implementing those items which are included in the Budget. Not taking all these into consideration Narayanaswami Nayudu Garu went off at a tangent as it were and thought that this Rs. 50,000 on agriculture or Rs. 36,000 on rats is the entire policy of the Government. Sir, we have definite programmes proposed, a five-year programme for rural communications, a five-year programme for irrigation and we have all the post-war development reports before us, which have got to be implemented and ample provision has been made in the Budget for them and all those items are being looked after one after another. As a matter of fact, our departmental heads are there very busy with the work on hand, because all these schemes had to be kept in abeyance during the war years, and they are now being rushed through and sanction or execution of all of them have to be attended to at a very urgent pace. So, Narayanaswami Nayudu Garu could not have forgotten the 50-crore Budget which we have got to execute. (Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu: ‘ For agriculture?’) No, not for agriculture alone but for the various other things which have got to be attended to. Agriculture will have to stand in its queue and cannot have the monopoly, as there are also other things which have to be attended to by Government. These supplementary grants are, as a matter of fact, not appreciated by the Finance Department; the Finance Department deprecates all new service items and view with great care every one of the proposals brought forward. The Finance Department no doubt recommends to them saying, ‘ why don't you wait till the general Budget is presented, what is the

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

[8th December 1947]

urgency and cannot it be put off till the General Budget is prepared and presented to the House and the approval of the House is obtained'. So, Sir, we view with very great care all these new service items; we generally do not approve them and when we see there is great urgency for particular items, we sanction and bring them in as new service items. Sir, it is not true that whatever is said in the House are not taken into consideration when we put the schemes which have been sanctioned into execution. My friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, as also my friend, Mr. Ibrahim, criticised that we are facing the House with a *fait accompli*. Of course in view of the urgency of the matter we have to sanction certain items, but that does not mean that it will be too late for the House to offer criticisms. For instance, in regard to the recruitment of the four armed mobile units, we have sanctioned them and steps are being taken to organize those units but in the light of the criticisms offered in this House and in the other House, certainly we can look to the recruitment, the way in which the units have to be utilized in times of emergency and things like that. So, nothing is lost before coming to the House even though the scheme is sanctioned. I may again remind hon. Members of the House of the Introductory Memorandum prepared by the Finance Department, wherein it is stated that 'except in extremely urgent cases or where only a small expenditure not exceeding Rs. 10,000 per annum recurring or Rs. 20,000 non-recurring is involved, expenditure on new services is not ordinarily incurred before the supplementary demands relating to them has been voted by the Legislature.' So, Sir, great care is being taken that we do not incur any heavy expenditure without the approval of the House and from time to time we come before the House for general approval or the actual voting of demands in the other House.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, has again raised the vexed question of not providing lump sum grants for irrigation services. Sir, here again we have to follow certain conventions and some canons on which Budget preparation is dependent and the Finance Department is generally averse to making lump sum provisions. At a time we could have said, for Development 4 crores, for Education 10 crores, for Public Works Department 15 crores and so on, and the work of the Finance Department could have been made very much easier if such lump sum provision theory is accepted by the House or by any Government but the Finance Department, which as I said, have to function with its well-known canons of budget-making, are loath to have any lump sum provision. On the other hand, we have heard very stringent criticisms levelled against the lump sum grant in regard to the one crore for Harijan uplift and 4 crores for Rural development and things like that. Because it is a negation of budget-making the Finance Department is usually very critical about lump-sum provisions. As far as possible, in respect of all lump-sum provisions in the Budget, there must be full investigation; before any scheme finds a place in the Budget it must obtain the sanction of the Government and then only budget provision could be made so that the work can be implemented in the current year.

8th December 1947] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

So, Sir, though the object of having lump-sum provision is commendable, hon. Members should not criticise the Government for the absence of lump-sum grants. No doubt we have incorporated straightaway certain lump-sum provisions amounting to 112 lakhs or so and that is being carried out under the five-year programme and our Divisional Engineers and the Highways Department are very busy in investigating and in executing the programme during the period.

" Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has again raised the question of audit fees of co-operative societies. It is no doubt a regrettable thing. For some time we did not charge audit fees on the co-operative societies concerned, but when the amount is mounting up, when new societies are coming into being and when they are interested in State Trading Schemes and some of them are earning large sums of money, we thought we could legitimately claim this audit fees from the co-operative societies. We do not want to take the responsibility for audit but we want to throw the responsibility on the co-operative societies for we know that the department has been working for the last 20 years and it is time they make their own arrangements for auditing but if any particular society shows that it is unable to meet the audit fees, perhaps the Government can come forward with grants or take upon themselves the responsibility of bearing the expenditure on audit. What we do is, we don't want to take the responsibility but it is for them to prove that they are not in a position to bear the expenditure and in such a case Government will come forward to meet the expenditure.

" Sir, with regard to the Armed Units, the Hon. the Home Minister has stated what he has to say and there is nothing else for me to reply to the criticisms offered by hon. Members, but only one thing I want to stress. Whenever we advertise for a new post, not only the members of this House but also outsiders get excited over the way in which recruitment is going to be made. After all we have to consider whether the Units are necessary or not, what are the circumstances under which these units are formed, how they are going to be utilized, whether they are going to be put to any useful purposes or not. That ought to be the consideration for the House but generally our members get excited over the manner in which recruitment is going to be made, what percentage is going to be given to war-returned personnel, what to I.N.A., what percentage to ex-convicts and what percentage is going to be given to Congressmen and things like that. It is all a very very small matter from the governmental point of view because we can trust our officers to recruit candidates with merit. I have had already talks with the officers concerned. they are taking every precaution to see that only the right type of people is recruited to the mobile units without fixing any quota or percentage for Congressmen, Ex-servicemen, I.N.A., or Rashtra Seva Sangha. Quotas are not fixed but they are interviewing candidates and taking all precautions to see that the right type of man is recruited for the right type of job. I do not want to say anything

[Sri B. Gopala Reddi] [8th December 1947]

more on the recruitment portion of it and I want to tell the members that they may rest assured that all that can be done under the circumstances will be done by the officers concerned with regard to recruitment. Sir, there are other things which were mentioned and after four Hon. Ministers have replied to the various criticisms, there is not much that I should say but there are one or two matters regarding Public Works, etc."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" About the Electric-supply Corporation."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The hon. Member is taking strong objection to 2,500 yards of cables we are giving to the Electric-Supply Corporation. After having spent millions of pounds for the Madras Electric-Supply Corporation does he expect the service to remain idle? Is the City to be in darkness and not get any electricity? We have spent a good deal of amount in buying the Corporation and every member has a right to demand what has been done with that amount and what is the return on the same. The Engineers have gone into this question and they wanted this yardage of cables every month they were urgently required and we had to provide for them in the current year."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Is it for expenses in connexion with the maintenance? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" It is for replacement. It is for the machinery that have become over-aged and we have to replace all that which could not be done during war time. Now these things have all to be replaced and instead of congratulating the Government for taking the necessary precautions I do not understand why my friend Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu is taking objection to it.

" Then there was some reference about permanent buildings for all the office staff at Ramapadasagar or Tungabhadra. There no town exists or is going to be located even in times to come and so only temporary buildings are needed. When permanent buildings are constructed in such places you will take us to task and ask what was the necessity to waste public money on them. So it is that we have left it to the departments concerned and their Engineers to say what type of construction is necessary in a particular locality.

" Sir, even about the Ramapadasagar, my friend Mr. Ibrahim has raised it that we are doing everything in a hurry. Of course some of my friends criticise us for the tardiness in completing such big schemes when famine is threatening us. On the other side, some friends criticise us for going too hastily about these big schemes. So, we have to take the golden mean and see that we do it as early as possible, but in as thorough a manner as possible. We have not sanctioned it and all the details are being looked into including its financial obligations. We know that the money has to be raised and we are investigating all these in consultation with the Government of India and we

8th December 1947] [Sri B. Gopala Reddi]

are taking all steps to see that we sanction the scheme as early as possible. While doing that I can assure my friend Mr. Ibrahim that all possible details are being looked into and nothing is being hurried in that matter also.

"Then, of course, the Harijan scholarship also came up for discussion and member after member congratulated the Government on the way in which we are helping Harijan scholars, colleges and institutes. We are also alive to the imperative necessity of social rehabilitation schemes in consonance with our financial circumstances. We are anxious to help the Harijans in all possible ways, but it entails huge expenditure and yet I can assure hon. Members, that we have not neglected whenever Harijan matters came before us.

"With regard to rural water-supply, it is also being taken up seriously and I am glad the House has given its approval for the one crore rupee fund that we have established just now and I am sure in times to come we can draw freely from this fund and push on our rural water-supply schemes. It has also been decided to set apart year after year Rs. 15 lakhs and credit it to this account, so that Engineers may not say that the water-supply schemes are held up due to want of finance. That is a thing done in the right direction. There are some districts like Rayalaseema, Coimbatore and Salem and my own district where there is water scarcity in the summer months. I am sure when this scheme is executed that difficulty will be mitigated and people will have protected water-supply.

"Lastly, my friend, Dr. John, called for the cutting off of the palmyra trees and the Hon. Minister for Prohibition has replied amply to that. Sir, this process of cutting itself will cost millions of rupees even at the rate of 8 annas or 1 rupee per tree."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I do not know whether the Finance Minister is taking the suggestion very seriously."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"No, Sir. So that we may save some money on enforcement of prohibition, he suggested this thing. I want to tell him that this process is going to cost much more, even apart from its wastage. Millions of rupees will have to be spent in the districts. Round about Masulipatam lakhs and lakhs of palmyra trees are there and it will be sheer waste of public energy if we begin to indulge in tree-felling expeditions.

"Sir, I am very glad that members have appreciated that these Supplementary Demands were presented. As I said, Sir, I will come before you towards the end of March next for the remaining items, that will be spent in the current year, and I am sure it will have the general approval of the House."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. on the 17th instant."